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SOURCE

Newspapers as indicated.

EXPAND EAST GERMAN POLICE, NAVAL UNITS

BUILD PEOPLE'S ARMY ON EAST GERMAN POLICE -- Stockholm Morgon Tidningen,

Berlin, August --- A considerable number of reports on the East German People's Police are in circulation. Undoubtedly, some of these reports are exaggerated, but are based on information which the East German authorities themselves have permitted to slip out. While the East German authorities officially deny any activity outside that of pure police functions, they are arming and building up the People's Police along very different lines. They are not at all opposed to the circulation of rumors, for they are interested in fostering fear and insecurity.

Among the many members of the People's Police who recently have deserted was a high-ranking officer, who confirmed information that, in addition to the 74,800 men in the regular, traffic, and border police units, there were 100,000 men in so-called Bereitschaften (alert units). These Bereitschaften constitute the real problem. Their next goal is 150,000 men, with 50,000 recruits; in the background may be seen plans for a Communist People's .rmy of 400,000 men. These plans have assumed rather detailed form.

Last year, there were 11 officers' schools with approximately 8,500 students and 39 Bereitschaften, some with over 1,000 men and some with less. These were divided into three branches corresponding to infantry, artillery, and armored groups. Engineer and clearing units made their appearance, next, and finally, "aviation technical" units were set up. These are expected to be called "anti-aircraft police." The naval police had already been in existence. The uniforms and insignia of rank show that the whole program is in line with the establishment of an East German navy. A police admiral and a police general were seen with the Party's Secretary-General at the parade staged in conrection with the last Communist congress in Berlin.

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So far as the coordination of the People's Police with the Red Army is concerned, military men believe that the East Germans, if the situation becomes serious, will be assigned missions similar to those performed by the SS Einsatzgruppen (combat units) in the last war. The reliability of the East German People's Army, however, is not established, for there are indications that it is not reliable. -- Willy Brandt, Morgon Tidnigen's Correspondent.

ADD MOUNTED POLICE TO PEOPLE'S POLICE FORCE -- Berlin Nacht-Express, 5 Aug 50

The first 20 mounted policemen reported to Headquarters of the People's Police in Berlin, Neue Koenigstrasse, on 4 August 1950. This group, which is stationed in Pankow, will be responsible for guarding nearby rural areas.

COAST GUARD TO TRAIN NAVAL UNITS -- Buenos Aires Argentinisches Tageblatt, 7 Aug 50

The Main Administration of the East German Coast Guard has issued its first qualification requirements for entering naval units in Soviet Zone Germany. Former seamen up to 35 years of age, and in special instances above that age, may apply. The main qualification expected of applicants is a positive attitude toward the German Democratic Republic. Enlistments are for 3 years. For those without experience at sea the age limit is from 18 to 24 years.

The East German Coast Guard will train all units of the future East German Fleet. Every applicant must take an extensive course at the newly establiched Coast Guard School. The first training courses will be for seamen, machinists, communication specialists, and radio operators. Graduates of these courses may be licensed as ship's captains or engineers.

TRAINS MERCHANT MARINE CAPTAINS -- Schwerin Landes-Zeitung, 31 Jul 50

In order to create a pool of available captains for the East German Merchant Marine, construction of which is provided in the Five-Year Plan, the Wustrow Navigation School will open a training course for merchant marine captains for long voyages on 2 September 1950. A three-term course for training sea navigators for long voyages started in March 1950.

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